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Graduate Council Minutes - August 27, 2015

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

August 27, 2015 Minutes

Members Present

Baek, S.; Behn, B.; Bemis, D.; Boder, E.; Bonom, J.; Broemmel, A.; Brothers, E.; Desmidt, H.; Forrest-Bank, S.; Fuller, R.; Galloway, S.; Gregor, Jens; Griffin, M.; Hatcher, B.; Hodges, C.; Kalyanaraman, R.; Kania, S. (Chair); Marshall, S.; Mee, R.; Meek, N.; Moran, M.J.; Morrow, J.; Nebenfuehr, A.; Rentsch, J.; Roman, M. (Chair-Elect); Sachs, A.; Stehle, M.; Stier, John; Theriot, M.; Thompson, D.; Tipps, G.; Townsend, L.

The Graduate Council meeting was called to order by chair, Stephen Kania, on Thursday, August 27, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. in the Panhellenic Building Multipurpose Room.

1. Minutes of the Preceding Meeting

The minutes of the April 16, 2015 meeting were approved by the Graduate Council.

2. Committee ReportsAcademic Policy Committee

Maria Stehle, Chair of the Academic Policy Committee, asked the Council to contact her via email if there are any policy changes or proposals that the Committee should be considering. Stehle stated students may also submit information or proposal requests. She requested that input be received two weeks prior to the first Academic Policy Committee meeting on September 10, 2015.

Ongoing topic

- Grading scale for graduate students—still needs to be voted on.
- Council waiting for more feedback before voting on matter.

No recommendations were forwarded to the Graduate Council for approval at this meeting.

Credentials Committee

Amy Broemmel, Chair of the Credentials Committee, asked that materials for the committee be submitted at least one week before the Credentials Committee meeting. She reported about possible procedures related to notification of doctoral directive status that comes with promotion and tenure. She and Carolyn Hodges, Dean of the Graduate School, will discuss the process for notification.

Curriculum Committee

Robert Fuller, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, asked that recommended changes for curriculum be submitted two weeks prior to the committee's next meeting on October 29, 2015. Proposals are due to Catherine Cox by October 9, 2015 and will be discussed at the October 29 meeting.

Appeals Committee

Carolyn Hodges, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, reported that work for the Appeals Committee has dwindled significantly. There haven't been as many appeals because students and advisors have paid closer attention to the procedures. Probations and dismissals have decreased as well.

Professional Development Awards

- Dr. Hodges reported that funding for Professional Development awards has decreased to almost half.
- A new call for submissions will be sent out soon.
- This year there will be three calls for proposals instead of four.
- The committee appreciates recipients sending follow-up summaries of the outcomes of their funded activities.

3. New Business

There was no new business.

4. Administrative ReportsVice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School

Dr. Hodges presented the following information:

- Enrollment numbers are up a little.
- Top 25 Refresh is ongoing. There will be open meetings for input that will be held several times throughout the year.
- The Graduate School will continue to focus on professional development. Dr. Brothers is maintaining a focus on teaching preparation, mentoring, and networking.
- Best Practices in Teaching sessions begin the week of August 31.
- There will be a workshop for directors of Graduate Studies sometime in the fall and spring.
- Two collaborative committees will be established by the Graduate School. One will focus on graduate student recruitment and how well it is working.
- The second committee will consider aspects for enhancing graduate student success.
- Dr. Joy DeSensi retired in May. The Graduate School will launch a search this fall.

- Looked into Graduate Associate Deans' issue of student advisors listed in MyUTK. Departments should contact Kathy Abbott in the Registrar's Office to seek help on entering the correct advisor information.

Graduate Student Senate

Nathan Meek, Vice President of the Graduate Student Senate, said the Senate's first meeting is September 18th.

Dr. Hodges acknowledged the Graduate Student Senate's role in helping to organize the Graduate Student Orientation.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Missy Hodge
Graduate School